GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3953
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2002
CRITERIA TO CHECK ADULTERATION IN PETROL AND DIESEL
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of guidelines issued and criteria fixed for collecting sample from petrol pumps in order to test the extent of adulteration in petrol and diesel;

(b) the type of containers prescribed for collection of samples of petrol and diesel from the petrol pumps;

(c) whether the dealer would be held guilty and punished for the less measurement caused due to the delivery machine having a technical and mechanical defect; and

(d) if so, the facts and details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS` PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) : The guidelines for sampling as given in `Motor Spirit & High Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply and Prevention of Malpractices) Order, 1998` are as under:-

(i) The authorised Officer shall draw the sample from the tank, nozzle, vehicle or receptacle, as the case may be, to check whether density and/or other parameters of the product conform to requirements of specifications.

(ii) The authorised Officer shall take, sign and seal six samples of 1 litre each of the Motor Spirit or 3 of 1 litre each of the High Speed Diesel. 2 samples of Motor Spirit (or one of High Speed Diesel) would be given to the dealer or transporter or concerned person under acknowledgement with instruction to preserve the sample in his safe custody till the testing or investigations are completed, 2 samples of MS (and/or one of HSD), would be kept in the concerned Oil Company or department and the remaining two samples of MS (and/or one of HSD) would be used for laboratory analysis.

(iii) Samples shall be taken in clean glass or aluminium containers. Plastic containers shall not be used for drawing samples.

(iv) The sample label should be jointly signed by the Officer who has drawn the sample, and the dealer or transporter or concerned person or his representative and the label shall contain information as regards the product, name of Retail Outlet, quantity of sample, date, name and signature of the Officer, name and signature of the dealer or transporter or concerned person or his representative.

(v) The authorised Officer shall send the sample of the product taken within 10 days to the laboratory for analysis with a view to checking whether the density and/ or other parameters of the product conform to the specification.

The tests are carried out to ascertain whether the product meets the specification or not. These are not to ascertain the extent of adulteration.

(b) : It is prescribed that Aluminium or glass containers will be used for sampling purpose.

(c) & (d) : Dealer would not be held guilty if less measurement is caused due to Dispensing Unit having a technical/mechanical defect. Whenever an irregularity is observed, the explanation of the dealer is called and action is taken only if the same is not found satisfactory. The dealer is required to check the delivery of the Dispensing Units on a daily basis through calibrated 5 litre measure and if there is any erratic delivery, he is required to inform the same to the concerned authority for necessary action. He is also required to keep the record of the same.